

***Proceedings of the 7th Annual Seminar on Condensed Matter Days – 1999
(CMDAYS-99) held at the Department of Physics, Jadavpur University,
Jadavpur, Calcutta, during August, 26-28, 1999***

Foreword

'Condensed Matter Days 99' was held at the Physics Department, Jadavpur University, during 26th – 28th August 1999. It was a rewarding experience for us to receive enthusiastic response from teachers, scientists and researchers in Condensed Matter Physics from all over West Bengal and neighbouring states.

There were in all, 109 participants. Six invited lectures were delivered and 56 contributed papers were presented, eleven orally and the rest as posters. Professor Shyamal Sengupta, Professor Emeritus, Presidency College and Visiting Professor at Jadavpur University, gave the inaugural talk entitled "Science as a Culture – its implications". Professor Ajay Gupta, Director IUC-DAEF, Indore gave a special lecture on experimental facilities available at IUC-DAEF to condensed matter physics researchers. A poster review session was introduced for each poster session, which generated lively discussion between the authors and other participants. The posters were reviewed by eminent scientists in the field.

In this issue, 25 of the papers presented at Condensed Matter Days '99 are published, including the inaugural lecture. We thank all the speakers and participants who contributed to the success of CMDAYS 99. We are grateful to the editorial staff of Indian Journal of Physics for their help in preparing this volume. Special thanks are due in this regard to Prof. S. P. Sengupta, Dr. K. K. Datta and Dr. Asok Sen. We gratefully acknowledge the generous contributions from our sponsors, the contributions from these institutions both financial and academic, have made it possible for us to organise the seminar – S. N. Bose National Centre for Basic Sciences (Calcutta), Institute of Physics (Bhubaneswar), Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (New Delhi), Department of Science and Technology (New Delhi), All India Council for Technical Education (New Delhi), Inter University Consortium for DAE facilities (Indore), Board of Research in Nuclear Sciences (Mumbai), Indian Association for the Cultivation of Science (Calcutta), Saha Institute of Nuclear Physics (Calcutta), Department of Science and Technology (West Bengal) and Jadavpur University.

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